

8.111284-85

ADD MONO

Playing
Time
2:22:57

CD 1 77:40

[1]-[24] Act I 77:40

CD 2 65:17

[1]-[12] Act II 43:19

[13]-[16] Appendix: Maria Callas
Sings Arias from *Medea*
and *La Vestale* 21:58Vincenzo
BELLINI
(1801-1835)**La sonnambula**

Amina Maria Callas
 Teresa Fiorenza Cossotto
 Elvino Nicola Monti
 Count Rodolfo Nicola Zaccaria
 Lisa Eugenia Ratti

Chorus and Orchestra of La Scala, Milan

Antonino Votto

Recorded 3rd – 9th March, 1957

in the Basilica di Santa Eufemia, Milan

Visconti's sensational 1955 production of *La sonnambula* for La Scala, Milan, was revived and recorded two years later. As a girl, Callas had fallen in love with the rôle of Amina; as an adult it suited her voice perfectly, and her interpretation set a benchmark that few have equalled. Among the many highlights of Callas's profoundly satisfying performance is her cadenza for *Ah non giunge* in which she executes a remarkable *diminuendo* on a stratospheric E-flat, a feat unrivalled in the history of the gramophone. This is by any standards a classic recording.

Reissue Producer and Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
 Special thanks to Maynard F. Bertolet for providing source material
 Cover photo: Maria Callas (Private Collection)

www.naxos.com

All rights in this sound recording, artwork, texts and translations reserved.
 Unauthorised public performance, broadcasting
 and copying of this compact disc prohibited.
 © & © 2009 Naxos Rights International Ltd. Made in Germany.

